



End-of-Year Report Card

2017-2018 School Year

Youth Served by Treehouse

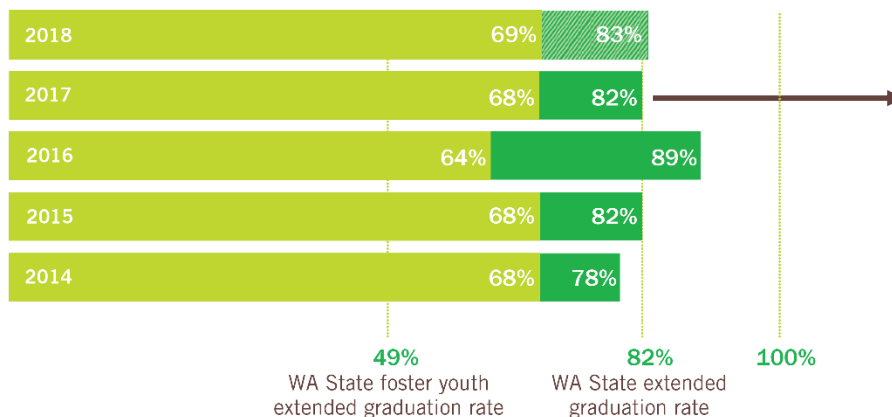
Total Unduplicated	Graduation Success	Educational Advocacy	Resource Services	Holiday Magic
7,129	986	1,228	2,720	5,393
youth received the academic and other essential support needed to succeed in school and in life.	youth were provided with the academic planning and coaching support needed to stay on track for graduation.	youth statewide gained access to education support services and received assistance navigating barriers to school success.	youth received essential clothing, school supplies, and financial assistance with extracurricular activities and school events.	youth enjoyed a meaningful gift during the month of December to brighten their holiday.

Celebrating Our 2018 Graduates

Thanks to the investments made by our generous community, our dedicated Graduation Success team, and the incredible resilience and determination of our youth, 85 students graduated high school on time in 2018.

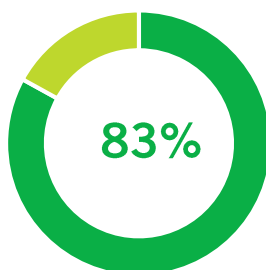
Treehouse Extended Graduation Rates

■ On-Time Rate ■ Extended Rate ■ Forecast

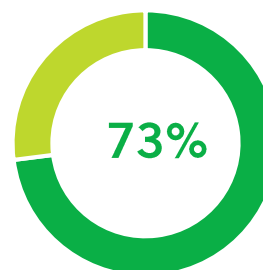


11 persistent 5th year seniors graduated in 2018.
The Treehouse Class of 2017 graduation rate is now at the same extended rate as it is for all students in Washington state!

Graduation Success Class of 2018's Plans for the Future



of our graduates plan to enroll in college or vocational training



of our seniors who did not graduate and are still enrolled in Graduation Success have a plan for high school completion



Stories That Inspire Us

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Youth Reclaim Power with Sharp Wit

By Edward Brown, *Treehouse Education Specialist*

A class clown myself, I have always placed a high premium on shenanigans. But since I started with Treehouse, I have found myself scrambling to keep pace.

In an enrollment meeting for one student's new school, their counselor fired a volley of questions at him: "Why are you switching schools? Why didn't you like your previous school?" These questions were seemingly harmless but also highlighted how little control my student had over his school placement. He skirted the questions gracefully. The real kicker came when the counselor referred to me as my student's father.

I cringed and looked at my student to see if he or I should make the correction. He shot me a wry smile and a nod as if to say, "Let it go." Following his lead, I completed the meeting as his "father," doing my best to respect his request for privacy. Still, I was uncomfortable.

After getting his schedule sorted, we left the counselor's office in search of his locker. On the way out, he hesitated and said, "Thanks, Dad." We both looked at each other, paused and then burst into laughter.

My student did not resent the counselor for her assumption. Rather, he said: "I don't want to make her feel bad. And plus, it's kind of funny." His humor wasn't mean-spirited or in search of one-upping someone. Instead, he used it to normalize an uncomfortable situation.

There are many assumptions about families. Many people think children should come with two parents from whom they were biologically created. This couldn't be further from the truth. A family is a person or group of people that you rely on and trust. Though my students are often unfairly tasked with challenging our assumptions, I am left in awe by their grace and humor.

Another of my students, David, came into our meeting furious about his least favorite class, Marketing. He described in detail how boring the class was and how the teacher was too strict. In the middle of these descriptions, he suddenly stood up, headed to the white board in the room and erupted into a lecture, using his finger to imitate a mustache.

"First you need to buy, but then you need to sell! Sell it all! But before all that, you need to take the one percent and subtract the margin from the other side's numbers and don't forget about the tariffs! Spelled T-A-R-I-F-F."

Each concept was written on the board with a storm of arrows creating a bizarre, illogical web of connections. I was cracking up.

Like David, my students are sometimes placed in situations that can make them feel powerless. Their sharp wit is just one of the many tools they use to reclaim this power—and of course, make me laugh along the way.

I often see bumper stickers on parents' cars bragging about their talented kids. I want a sticker that says: "My student is funnier than your kid." I know, I know, it's a generalization. But I am proud of my students, and I want everyone to know the joy they bring me.



Kenya

Oakland
Alternative
School

What's next?

Clover Park
Technical
College, Physical
Therapist



Lihonel

Lincoln High
School

What's next?

Highline College,
Palliative
Care Nursing



Lindsey

Riverview
Learning Center

What's next?

Western
Washington
University,
Sociology,
Homicide
Detective



Azael

Lincoln High
School

What's next:

Highline College,
International
Businessman



Berenice

Shorewood High
School

What's next?

Seattle Central
Community
College,
Accounting
Forensics



Graduation Success

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2017-2018 School Year

Youth Served	2016	2017	2018
Total Youth	695	762	986

Capacity Measures	2016	2017	2018
Number of Schools	145	165	219
Number of Education Specialists	28	34	42
Number of In-School Mentors	78	63	7

Student Engagement Indicators	2018 Semester 1	2018 Semester 2
Youth on target for Attendance	70%	69%
Youth on target for Behavior	86%	86%
Youth on target for Course Performance	60%	62%
Youth accessing Little Wishes	62%	65%
Youth with Student Centered Plan	94%	94%

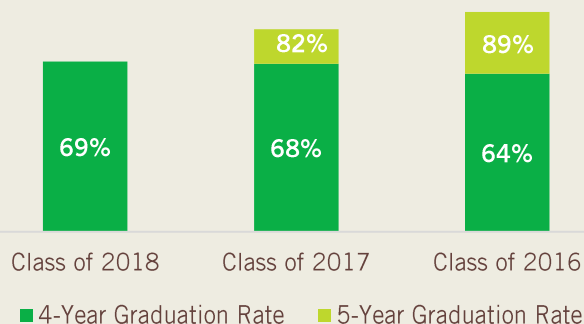
Metrics Defined

- On target for Attendance: Fewer than 10 absences per semester
- On target for Behavior: No suspensions or expulsions
- On target for Course Performance: No course failures
- On Track to Graduate (High School): Has accrued the number of credits expected based on their Grad Year

Achievements

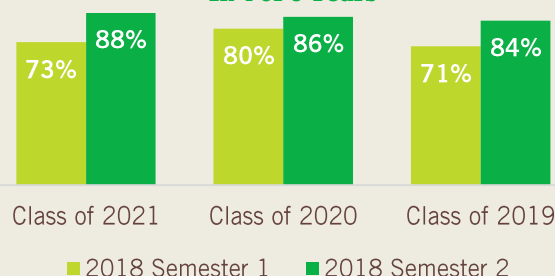
- The dedication and perseverance of Graduation Success students and staff resulted in 85 students successfully graduating from high school on time. Due to the persistence of our 5th year seniors who graduated this year, the extended graduation rate is now 82% for the class of 2017—a 14% increase from the 4-year graduation rate for the same class last year and on par with the extended rate for all students in Washington state.
- Our expansion of Graduation Success into Snohomish County and further into Spokane and Pierce Counties for the 2017-18 school year has been serving youth and building partnerships with the new school districts and communities. Another year of successful expansion is a positive indicator of our ability to sustain program quality while scaling across the state. This continued expansion statewide ensures we can reach more students to achieve our goal of high school graduation for youth in foster care statewide, as we continue to serve students who may move outside current Graduation Success program areas.

Graduation Rate



On Track to Graduate

In 4 or 5 Years



What We're Learning

- Treehouse is committed to extend the work of our Graduation Success and Resource Services programs to young adults. In order to support our Graduation Success alumni in setting and attaining their goals, next year we plan to adapt our services. Through person-centered planning, and the pairing of financial and material resources, we will support our young adults to successfully launch into adulthood with stable housing, a degree or credential, and a living wage job by age 26.
- Discovering disproportionate outcomes for our students of color prompted us to prioritize closing this achievement gap and increasing the graduation rate for students of color. This coming school year we plan to better utilize recommendations from outside consulting groups, such as university partners, strengthen our partnerships with stakeholders, and increase training for staff working with youth of color.
- We are learning that the main barriers impacting our students' graduation are systemic issues, and we believe that there is opportunity for systems-level advocacy to further improve the graduation rate and lives of our students. We plan to work closely with schools and the Department of Children, Youth and Families to advocate for changes in organizational policies that may be negatively impacting Treehouse youth, such as suspension practices.



Educational Advocacy

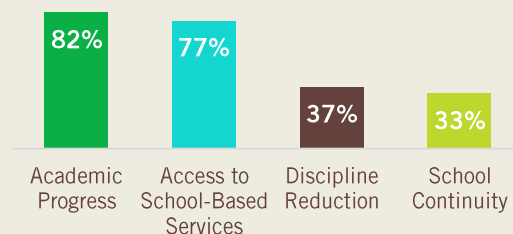
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Children & Youth Served

Direct & Consultation Level of Service	1,160
Youth Specific Information & Referral Service	168
Total Unduplicated Youth Served	1,228

Types of Interventions



Expected Outcomes for Youth Served

By using research-based performance indicators, the Educational Advocacy program is able to demonstrate an increased probability of the outcomes listed below. These outcomes then contribute to the long-term impacts of removing major educational barriers for youth and increasing the likelihood of youth reaching high school graduation. **As a result of Education Advocates' interventions, youth served at a Direct & Consultation level have the following:**

Natural Support(s) to Advocate for Youth	899 youth	85% of youth served
Connected to Credit Recovery or Gains Credits	79 youth	7% of youth served
Credits Successfully Transferred	41 youth	4% of youth served
Special Education Accommodations Created or Improved	467 youth	44% of youth served
Connected to General Education Academic Supports	442 youth	42% of youth served
School Transfer Prevented or Expedited	140 youth	13% of youth served
Discipline Issue Prevented or Reduced	251 youth	24% of youth served
Suspension/Expulsion Prevented or Reduced	78 youth	7% of youth served

Outcomes

Youth has support(s) in their life who can advocate for them

Youth receives relevant academic support

Youth has increased school stability

Youth has reduced absences

Achievements

- An essential part of the Educational Advocacy program is ensuring a support system for youth that eliminates the need for external interventions when faced with an educational barrier. Crucial is finding a non-Treehouse advocate in the youth's life who can advocate on behalf of the youth. An increase in this outcome from 71% of youth last school year to 85% of youth this year indicates Education Advocates were more intentional in identifying and building capacity of these natural advocates to support youth once they are no longer involved in the case.
- A strong effort in outreach to Department of Social and Health Services offices and schools led to a 20% increase in referrals over last year for youth in need.
- Education Advocates continue to build the capacity of caseworkers, caregivers, community providers, and school personnel to support the educational outcomes of youth in foster care by providing 81 trainings, workshops and presentations for approximately 1,100 attendees.

What We're Learning

- This is the second year we have accepted referrals from school personnel. Despite a focus on statewide outreach this year, only a small portion (1%) of referrals submitted were from schools. Throughout the year, Education Advocates reached out to schools, visited school buildings, and trained school staff on the referral process. Although these efforts did not result in an increase in referrals from schools, it did help to strengthen relationships with schools. We are now considering next steps.
- As the Graduation Success program expands statewide, Education Advocates have played an important role in providing connections through their strong relationships with schools and communities that they've built over the years in the areas they serve.



Resource Services

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Driver's Assistance

Learner's Permits	26
Driver's Education Classes	112
Driver's Licenses	27
Auto Insurance	105
Total Participants Served	179
Total Scholarships	\$84,579

Driver's Assistance Program

"Treehouse helping with my driving expenses and auto insurance has made a huge impact on my life. I got my license in January 2018, and Treehouse has helped me ever since I received my license and even before. Treehouse also paid for my driver's ed and even pays for a AAA membership! I recently was placed with my grandparents, and Treehouse helped me figure out what I needed to do to get on their insurance and the steps I needed to take. They have helped me and also educated me on things I might need to know for my future. I work but I don't make a lot of money. Treehouse assisting with my auto insurance and so much more really makes a difference. Thanks to Treehouse, I have extra money for gas and any repairs I might need to make."

~Treehouse youth

Holiday Magic

Youth Served Region 1	1,422
Youth Served Region 2	1,729
Youth Served Region 3	2,242
Total Youth Served	5,393
Total Value of Gifts Distributed	\$250,292

Holiday Magic

"The service provided is making lives for children going through a tough time a little more bearable. Such generosity and giving spirit really brings the meaning of Christmas to life for those kids who may not receive a gift at all if not for you all."

~Treehouse supporter

"Treehouse has done so much for our kids. I honestly couldn't say enough good things about your services! This is such an amazing program, and we felt so supported by our community because of it."

~Caregiver

Little Wishes

Career Readiness	14
Extra-curricular Activities	3,631
Academic Support	1,441
Just-in-Time Funding	735
Summer Camp	448
Total Youth Served	1,426
Total Scholarships	\$751,275

Little Wishes

Youth Job Shadow: Olson Kundig, a world-renowned architecture and interior design company, recently hosted a job shadow for a Treehouse youth. The student learned how departments within the firm work closely together, and she was amazed by the scale of a current project which will take five years. The team led her through the project, including all the little decisions that happen along the way, accommodating the client's needs and wants, and pitching the final design. She enjoyed a hand-on review of the materials involved in the project—carpets, furniture, tiles and wood flooring.

Graduation Gifts: "On behalf of my graduated Seniors ... THANK YOU! They were all very pleased with their graduation gifts and it was something that made them feel very special. I wish you could have seen their faces! Thank you for helping me be awesome for my kids! I love them. They are so important to me and everything that Treehouse does for them is amazing. I so sincerely appreciate your hard work and effort. Thank you again!"

~Treehouse Education Specialist



Resource Services

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Wearhouse

Number of Clothes Distributed	85,182
Number of Books Distributed	24,143
Number of School Supplies Distributed	14,465
Number of Event Tickets Distributed	5,586
Number of Toys Distributed	25,180
Total Youth Served	2,115
Total Number of Store Visits	5,062
Total Number of Items Distributed	160,540

Achievements

- In the first six months of the Driver's Assistance Program, we have fulfilled over 150 requests for support from youth across the state. Learning to drive is a major rite of passage for many youth. The introduction of this program has allowed us to support youth as they go from getting their permit and learning to drive all the way through owning their first car. The program also helps make sure youth are safe while on the road with auto insurance and roadside assistance.
- This year we have expanded our distribution of cell phones and laptops statewide to help Graduation Success students connect to their champions and pursue their educational dreams as they request devices for credit retrieval, homework help, college applications, and online schooling.
- Over the past three years, we have improved how we support youth as they celebrate milestones and rites of passage, including events such as prom and college exploration. We also offer birthday and graduation gifts for each of our Graduation Success students. This year we provided 72 graduation gifts.

Wearhouse

Back-to-School: One of the first shoppers during the Back-to-School season at our free store came in looking to stock up on clothing and school supplies before heading off to WSU. He found plenty of clothes, a sturdy new backpack and lots of school supplies. The young man was just a couple of days away from moving and left feeling ready to head off on his new adventure.

Family Loses Everything in Fire: Treehouse supports our youth and families through a variety of crises. In the spring, one of our families needed basic items after their house burned down. In addition to the usual clothes and shoes, we were able to provide each member of the family an overnight kit with a duffle bag, sleeping bag, socks, hygiene kit, water bottle and more. The family left their visit with the basics secured so they could focus their energy on getting their lives back in order.

More Emergency Assistance: Unexpected placement changes are a constant struggle for youth in the foster system. A caregiver came in to shop for a youth in her care and a teen who had been staying with her temporarily while her caregiver was out of town. That morning the client received a call that the teen would not be able to move back in with their previous caregiver. The teen and caregiver were left not knowing how long she would now be staying—and when she would be able to retrieve her belongings. With Treehouse's help, they were able to get all of the basics she would need until she was able to pick up the rest of her clothes.

What We're Learning

- We identify student needs and proactively curate items for staff to support their youth, and this process is growing in our expansion areas. We must have a sustainable model to obtain items for all youth and also build stronger connections with our communities.
- Throughout our pilot year, we have found that Career Cruising, an online career exploration tool, helps students explore career interests, builds their student-centered planning goals and creates a foundation for their career development. We have begun the process of streamlining community connections to build students' networks for job opportunities in the future.
- In developing our Career Readiness tools, we have learned that building soft skills with youth is a crucial first step. Using incentives, we have been able to keep youth engaged in improving these skills, which in turn allows us to better assess youths' interests and identify possible career paths.